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Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT IN THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

ELLEN JACKSON, Plaintiff,)) Civil Action No.)
v.)
EXPERIAN INFORMATION SOLUTIONS, INC. and EQUIFAX INFORMATION)
SERVICES LLC)
Defendants.))

COMPLAINT

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer against the Defendants for violations of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (hereafter the "FCRA"), 15 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., as amended.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 2. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1681p, 28 U.S.C. §1331, 1337.
- 3. Venue lies properly in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b).

PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff Ellen Jackson is an adult individual who resides in the State of Missouri.
- 5. Defendant Experian Information Solutions, Inc. (hereafter "Experian"), is a business entity which regularly conducts business in the District of New Jersey and which has a principal place of business located at 4 Gatehall Drive, 3rd Floor, Parsippany, NJ 07054.
- 6. Defendant Equifax Information Services, LLC (hereafter "Equifax"), is a business entity that regularly conducts business in the District of New Jersey and which has a principle place of business at 815 E. Gate Drive, Suite 102, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 7. Defendants have been reporting derogatory and inaccurate statements and information relating to Plaintiff and Plaintiff's credit history to third parties (hereafter the "inaccurate information") from at least September 2016 through the present.
- 8. The inaccurate information includes, but is not limited to, the reporting of an open bankruptcy case.
- 9. The inaccurate information negatively reflects upon the Plaintiff, Plaintiff's credit repayment history, Plaintiff's financial responsibility as a debtor and Plaintiff's credit worthiness.
- 10. The inaccurate information consists of public record information of an open bankruptcy, but has not been updated to reflect that the bankruptcy was discharged and closed in 2010.
- 11. Due to Defendants' faulty procedures, Defendants failed to update Plaintiff's credit file.

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- 12. Defendants have been reporting the inaccurate information through the issuance of false and inaccurate credit information and consumer credit reports that it has disseminated to various persons and credit grantors, both known and unknown from at least September 2016 through the present.
- 13. Plaintiff has applied for and has been denied various loans and extensions of consumer credit, and Plaintiff has been informed that the basis for these denials was the inaccurate information that appears on Plaintiff's credit reports and that the inaccurate information was a substantial factor for those denials.
- 14. Plaintiff's credit reports and file have been obtained from Defendants and have been reviewed by prospective and existing credit grantors and extenders of credit, and the inaccurate information has been a substantial factor in precluding Plaintiff from receiving credit offers and opportunities, known and unknown.
- 15. Plaintiff's credit reports have been obtained from Defendants by such third parties from at least September 2016 through the present.
- 16. As a result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff has suffered actual damages in the form of credit denial or loss of credit opportunity, credit defamation and emotional distress, including anxiety, frustration, embarrassment and, humiliation.
- 17. At all times pertinent hereto, Defendants were acting by and through their agents, servants and/or employees who were acting within the course and scope of their agency or employment, and under the direct supervision and control of the Defendants herein.
- 18. At all times pertinent hereto, the conduct of the Defendants as well as that of their agents, servants and/or employees, was intentional, willful, reckless, and in grossly negligent disregard for federal and state laws and the rights of the Plaintiff herein.

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CLAIMS

<u>COUNT ONE – Violations of the FCRA</u> Plaintiff v. Experian and Equifax

- 19. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as though the same were set forth at length herein.
- 20. At all times pertinent hereto, Experian and Equifax were "persons" and a "consumer reporting agency" as those terms are defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(b) and (f).
- 21. At all times pertinent hereto, the Plaintiff was a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(c).
- 22. At all times pertinent hereto, the above-mentioned credit reports were "consumer reports" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1681a(d).
- 23. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1681n and 15 U.S.C. §1681o, Experian and Equifax are liable to the Plaintiff for willfully and negligently failing to comply with the requirements imposed on a consumer reporting agency of information pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 1681e(b).
- 24. The conduct of Experian and Equifax was a direct and proximate cause, as well as a substantial factor, in bringing about the serious injuries, actual damages and harm to the Plaintiff that are outlined more fully above and, as a result, Defendants are liable to the Plaintiff for the full amount of statutory, actual and punitive damages, along with the attorneys' fees and the costs of litigation, as well as such further relief, as may be permitted by law.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND

25. Plaintiff demands trial by jury on all issues so triable.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff seeks judgment in Plaintiff's favor and damages against the Defendants, based on the following requested relief:

(a) Actual damages;

(b) Statutory damages;

(c) Punitive damages;

(d) Costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C.§§1681n and 1681o;

and

(e) Such other and further relief as may be necessary, just and proper.

DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL

Plaintiff hereby designates Mark Mailman and Geoffrey H. Baskerville as trial counsel in

the above-captioned matter. Plaintiff reserves the right to amend this designation as necessary.

ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION

I, Mark Mailman, counsel of record, do hereby certify pursuant to Local Civil Rule

201.1(d) that relief other than monetary damages is sought and that the damages sought are in

excess of \$150,000. I further certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any

case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court.

Respectfully Submitted,

FRANCIS & MAILMAN, P.C.

BY: /s/ Mark Mailman

MARK MAILMAN, ESQ.

GEOFFREY H. BASKERVILLE, ESQ. JOSEPH L. GENTILCORE, ESQ.

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Attorneys for Plaintiff

Dated: September 14, 2017

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